UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI (Eastern) HATTIESBURG DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PLAINTIFF

vs.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:18-cv-2-KS-MTP

PETER BREEDEN

DEFENDANT

COMPLAINT

COMES NOW, D. Michael Hurst, Jr., United States Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi, on behalf of Plaintiff, United States of America, and files this its Complaint against Defendant Peter Breeden, and in support says:

- 1. This is a civil action brought on behalf of the United States of America and this Court has jurisdiction under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1345.
 - 2. Defendant resides at Hattiesburg, MS, within the Southern District of Mississippi.
- 3. Defendant owes Plaintiff the principal sum of \$9,031.01, plus interest, as more fully set forth on the Certificate of Indebtedness attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
 - 4. Due demand has been made for payment.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendant as follows:

- a) In the amount of \$15,452.54 (\$9,031.00 principal and \$6,421.54 interest) plus 11% interest accrued through November 21, 2017;
 - b) Interest to accrue at the legal rate to date of judgment;
- c) Interest from the date of judgment at the legal rate in effect on the date of judgment until paid in full;

- d) Filing fee costs in the amount of \$400.00 (\$350.00 filing fee plus \$50.00 administrative fee) in favor of Plaintiff, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2412(a)(2); and
 - e) For such other good and proper relief as this Court may deem just.

DATED: January 10, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

D. MICHAEL HURST, JR. United States Attorney

BY: s/Marc A. Perez
Marc A. Perez
Assistant United States Attorney
501 East Court Street, Suite 4.430
Jackson, MS 39201
Washington State Bar No. 33907
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Program Support Center

Debt Collection Center

CERTIFICATE OF INDEBTEDNESS

Nursing Scholarship Program (NSP)

Peter A. Breeden 304 Hillendale Dr Hattiesburg, MS 39402 SSN: 438-29-1767

REF: 46090002

Total debt due United States as of November 21, 2017: \$15,452.54 (principal \$9,031.00; interest \$6,421.54).

I certify that the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) records show that the individual named above is indebted to the United States in the amount stated. Interest accrues on the principal amount of this debt at the fixed rate of 11% per annum. The interest accrues at \$2.72 per day.

Peter A. Breeden submitted an application and signed a contract to participate in Nursing Scholarship Program (NSP), Section 846(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 297n(d)).

On September 23, 2008, he was approved to receive a scholarship award for the 2008-2009; and the 2009-2010 school year. The funds received totaled \$9,031.00 representing tuition, fees, monthly stipends, and other reasonable educational costs.

One of the conditions for receipt of funds is that he maintain enrollment as a full-time student until completion of the course of study for which the scholarship was provided. On January 23, 2009, his enrollment in nursing school was terminated because he voluntarily withdrew from school.

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 297n(g)(1)(A), if a participant fails to maintain an acceptable level of academic standing in the nursing program, is dismissed from the nursing program for disciplinary reasons, or voluntarily terminates the nursing program, the participant is liable to the Federal Government for the amount of his or her award, and for interest on that amount at the maximum legal prevailing rate. The amount the Federal Government is entitled to recover is due no later than three (3) years from the date of the participant's default.

On July 07, 2009, he was notified by letter that he had been placed in default of the conditions of his contract effective January 23, 2009. He was informed of the annual interest rate applicable to his debt and advised that interest would accrue on the unpaid principal balance from the date of default until the debt is paid in full. He was advised the debt must be paid within three years from the date of default. Instructions were enclosed for requesting a repayment agreement if he was unable to remit the total amount due.

Exhibit "A"

PAGE 2 - CERTIFICATE OF INDEBTEDNESS - DEBTOR'S NAME

In a letter dated December 23, 2011, he was advised that his account had been referred to a private collection agency. He was notified that unless payment in full or an RA was concluded, the account would be referred to DOJ for enforced collection.

By letter dated May 11, 2012, he was advised that his account was delinquent. He was notified of HHS' intent to refer his debt to other Federal agencies for the purpose of administrative offset, which may include Federal tax refund offset, salary offset, wage garnishment, and other Federal or State Agencies payments. He was advised that paying the debt in full or entering into an RA would terminate administrative offset.

Additional notifications and demand letters regarding the indebtedness were sent on the following dates: April 02, 2014; June 23, 2014; July 29, 2014; January 28, 2015; and May 06, 2015.

By letter dated November 29, 2017, Mr. Breeden was sent a final notice regarding the delinquent debt. He was advised that if payment was not received within thirty days, the debt would be referred to the DOJ for litigation. He did not respond.

The following provides a breakdown of payments made on the debt:

Voluntary Payments

01/09/14 to 02/23/15

647.67

Treasury Offset Payments

03/27/13 to 04/24/17

<u>1705.46</u>

\$2,353

Repeated attempts by HHS have been unsuccessful in establishing an acceptable repayment agreement. The debt is now being referred to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), District of Southern Mississippi, 501 E Court St., Suite 4.430 Jackson, MS 39201 for enforced collection.

CERTIFICATION: Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1746, I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Data

Total

Melodie R. Sanders

Chief, Debt Referral Section

Program Support Center

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

JS 44 (Rev. 06/17)

CIVIL COVER SHEET Civil No.: 2:18-cv-2-KS-MTP

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

| I. (a) PLAINTIFFS | | | DEFENDANTS | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA | | | PETER BREEDI | PETER BREEDEN | | |
| (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES) | | | NOTE: IN LAND CO | County of Residence of First Listed Defendant FORREST (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED. | | |
| (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Marc A. Perez, Chief Chief, AUSA 501 East Court Street, Suite 4.430 Jackson, MS 39201 (601) 965-4480 | | | Attorneys (If Known) N/A | | | |
| II. BASIS OF JURISDI | CTION (Place an "X" in C | Ine Box Only) | III. CITIZENSHIP OF P | RINCIPAL PARTIES | (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintif | |
| ∡ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff | 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party) | | | FF DEF 1 □ 1 Incorporated or P of Business In | | |
| ☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant | ☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) | | Citizen of Another State | 2 | | |
| | | | Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | 3 | □ 6 □ 6 | |
| IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only) Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions. | | | | | | |
| CONTRACT | i e |)RTS | EORFEITURE/PENASTY | | OTHER STATUTES | |
| □ 110 Insurance □ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument ▼ 150 Recovery of Overpayment | □ 330 Federal Employers' Liability □ 340 Marine □ 345 Marine Product Liability □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability □ 360 Other Personal Injury □ 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS □ 440 Other Civil Rights □ 441 Voting □ 442 Employment □ 443 Housing/ Accommodations □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - | | of Property 21 USC 881 690 Other LABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Management Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act | 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application 840 Trademark 861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609 | □ 375 False Claims Act □ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a)) □ 400 State Reapportionment □ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations □ 480 Consumer Credit □ 490 Cable/Sat TV □ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange □ 890 Other Statutory Actions □ 891 Agricultural Acts □ 893 Environmental Matters □ 895 Freedom of Information Act □ 896 Arbitration □ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision □ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes | |
| V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in | Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other 448 Education | Other: 540 Mandamus & Other 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement | ☐ 462 Naturalization Application ☐ 465 Other Immigration Actions | | | |
| ▼1 Original □ 2 Rea | moved from | Appellate Court | (specify) | r District Litigation Transfer | | |
| VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO | Brief description of ca | nuse: | e filing (Do not cite jurisdictional state | | | |
| VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P. | | | DEMAND \$ 15,452.54 | DEMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: | | |
| VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY (See instructions): JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER | | | | | | |
| DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD 01/10/2018 MARC A. PEREZ, CIVIL CHIEF, AUSA FOR OFFICE USE ONLY | | | | | | |
| | 10UNT | APPLYING IFP | JUDGE S | Starrett MAG. JUI | PGE Parker | |